GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2423
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2006
GAGAN SHAKTI EXERCISE ON WESTERN COAST
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Defence forces have recently completed Gagan Shakti exercise on Western Coast as reported in the "Times of India" dated September 16, 2006;

(b)if so, the facts thereof;

(c)the primary objectives of such exercise; and

(d)the extent to which such drills are successful in combating hostile forces?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): The Indian Air Force conducted an exercise 'Gagan Shakti' in September, 2006. The exercise was conducted along the Western border.

(c)&(d) : Peace time exercises are of vital necessity as these serve to keep our forces operationally ready for performing their assigned tasks.